

Members

Rep. Ralph Ayres, Chairperson
Rep. Don Lehe
Rep. Mary Kay Budak
Rep. John Aguilera
Rep. Charlie Brown
Rep. Duane Cheney
Sen. Sue Landske, Vice-Chairperson
Sen. Marvin Riegsecker
Sen. Joseph Zakas
Sen. Rose Antich-Carr
Sen. Frank Mrvan
Sen. Earline Rogers
Mayor Daniel M. Klein
James Pettit



NORTHWEST INDIANA TRANSPORTATION STUDY COMMISSION

Legislative Services Agency
200 West Washington Street, Suite 301
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2789
Tel: (317) 233-0696 Fax: (317) 232-2554

LSA Staff:

Dan Paliganoff, Attorney for the Commission
James Spertlik, Fiscal Analyst for the Commission

Authority: P.L. 28-2004

MEETING MINUTES¹

Meeting Date:	October 31, 2005
Meeting Time:	1:00 P.M.
Meeting Place:	Auditorium, Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission, 6100 Southport Road
Meeting City:	Portage, Indiana
Meeting Number:	5

Members Present: Rep. Ralph Ayres, Chairperson; Rep. Don Lehe; Rep. Mary Kay Budak; Rep. John Aguilera; Rep. Charlie Brown; Rep. Duane Cheney; Sen. Marvin Riegsecker; Sen. Joseph Zakas; Sen. Rose Antich-Carr; Sen. Frank Mrvan; Sen. Earline Rogers; Mayor Daniel M. Klein; James Pettit.

Members Absent: Sen. Sue Landske, Vice-Chairperson.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE MEETING

Rep. Ayres called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. and declared a quorum of the Commission. Then Rep. Ayres asked Commission member Jim Pettit, Elkhart City Councilman, to introduce himself. This was the first meeting that Mr. Pettit had an opportunity to attend. Mr. Pettit was recently appointed to the Commission by the

¹ Exhibits and other materials referenced in these minutes can be inspected and copied in the Legislative Information Center in Room 230 of the State House in Indianapolis, Indiana. Requests for copies may be mailed to the Legislative Information Center, Legislative Services Agency, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204-2789. A fee of \$0.15 per page and mailing costs will be charged for copies. These minutes are also available on the Internet at the General Assembly homepage. The URL address of the General Assembly homepage is <http://www.in.gov/legislative/>. No fee is charged for viewing, downloading, or printing minutes from the Internet.

Michiana Area Council of Governments (MACOG).

FINAL REPORT

Rep. Ayres called the Commission's attention to the proposed final report distributed to the Commission, labeled draft 05OCT31 (draft report). See Attachment 1. He surveyed the main features of the draft report for the Commission.

Rep. Charlie Brown asked about the legislative changes that the Lake Porter Regional Bus Authority (RBA) would be asking for, which were presented at the fourth meeting of the Commission on October 25, 2005. Because this meeting of the Commission was being held at the offices of the Northwestern Indiana Regional Planning Commission (NIRPC) and the legislative changes had been presented by two NIRPC employees, Rep. Ayres asked if **Dan Gardner**, Deputy Director of NIRPC, or **Belinda Petroskey** were available to respond to Rep. Brown's question. Mr. Gardner explained that the two definite legislative changes that were presented at the previous meeting concerned the following:

(1) In the regional transportation authority statute, strike the language that refers to the union representative of *employees of the Authority*.

(2) In the regional transportation authority statute, revise provisions for the membership of the citizens advisory council to the RBA so that Porter County membership is proportional to the population served by the RBA.

Ms. Petroskey added that at the previous meeting of the RBA board, there was some discussion on the possibility of eliminating the citizens advisory council altogether. **Mayor Daniel Klein**, also a member of the RBA board, told the Commission that RBA board's concern is that the board is growing too big to control. However, this idea has not been definitely recommended by the RBA board.

Sen. Joseph Zakas moved that on page 7 of the draft report the phrase "and other issues" be added to the first bullet point in the recommendation following the word "improvements." His motion was seconded, a voice vote was taken, and the motion prevailed.

Sen. Zakas moved that on page 6 of the draft report Finding of Fact number 3 be amended by replacing the phrase "only about fifty percent" with the word "many" and the word "can" be replaced by the word "may." His motion was seconded, a voice vote was taken, and the motion prevailed.

Rep. Brown moved that the draft report be adopted as amended, and was seconded. He asked for a roll call vote and Rep. Ayres directed that the roll be called. The result was 13-0 in favor of adopting the draft report as amended as the Commission's final report. See Attachment 2.

CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

There being no further business, Rep. Ayres thanked the Commission members for their service and declared the meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.